Docket No.: 1254-0299PUS1

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Takaji WAKITA et al.

Application No.: 10/558,155

Confirmation No.: 6809

Filed: January 3, 2007

Art Unit: 1633

For: A NUCLEIC ACID CONSTRUCT

CONTAINING A NUCLEIC ACID DERIVED FROM THE GENOME OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV) OF GENOTYPE 2A, AND A CELL HAVING SUCH NUCLEIC ACID CONSTRUCT INTRODUCED THEREIN Examiner: F. G. Sajjadi

## **REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 9, 2008

Madam:

## **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated December 8, 2008, the response being timely filed on Monday, March 9, 2009 since March 8, 2009 falls on a Sunday, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This response contains:

Amendments to the Claims beginning on page 2 of this paper and

Remarks/Arguments beginning on page 8 of this paper.